THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) The Government is promoting development of the renewable energy sector, including solar energy through a mix of fiscal and financial incentives that include capital/interest subsidy, accelerated depreciation, nil/concessional excise and custom duties.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Solar photovoltaic home lighting systems, street lighting systems, lanterns, power plants, water pumping systems and systems for electrification of remote villages and hamlets aggregating to about 73 MW peak capacity have been installed in the country up to 31st March, 2009 under the Ministry's programmes. In addition, 2.5 million square meters collector area of solar water heating systems and 6.37 lakhs solar cookers have been installed in the country upto 31st March, 2009. A target of generating 50 MW of power from solar energy has been fixed for the 11th Plan Period.

Renewable energy deals

2508.SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether renewable energy is an increasingly important arena for deal making, as companies and investors respond to growing role of renewable sources in meeting global energy demands and challenge of climatic change;

(b) whether India recorded total renewable deals of $134 billion in 2008, which is about 7.3 per cent of total Asia-Pacific renewable deals and it stands third behind China and Australia;

(c) whether during 2007-08, 441 renewable deals were announced, with reported value totaling $70.3 billion; and

(d) if so, to what extent wind and solar power sectors gear up energy deal and to what extent it has been helpful?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) Specific Data regarding deals in the renewable sector is not maintained. However these figures have been reported in the Annual Review for 2008 on renewable deals, brought out by M/s. Price Water House Coopers.

National mission on solar energy

2509.SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:
SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:
SHRI MANGALA KISAN:
Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recommended a National Mission to boost the use of solar energy;

(b) if so, whether the existing technology would be used on new materials like solar concentrators to increase the use of solar energy; and